

than *D. decipiens*, and has the outer margin of the hind wing still more evenly rounded, with no trace of a projection at the apex of the third median nervule.

I possess three males of this very distinct species from Moupin, sent me by M. Charles Oberthür.

Indian Museum, Calcutta,
July 12th, 1898.

LX.—*A new Species of Shrew from Ashantee.*

By W. E. DE WINTON.

AMONG a few small mammals lately presented to the British Museum by Capt. W. Giffard, who collected them in Ashantee, is a very striking shrew, of such intense rich seal-brown colour that it appears almost black. I am indebted to Mr. Oldfield Thomas, who has kindly handed the collection over to me for description, and I have pleasure in associating the name of the discoverer with this fine new form, which may be described as follows:—

Crocidura (Cr.) Giffardi, sp. n.

The head and body above and below, with the legs and feet, dark seal-brown or brown-black; tail coal-black.

Measurements taken from the dried skin:—

Head and body (c.) 130 millim.; tail (c.) 100; hind foot without claws (c.) 23; from the nose to the termination of the thick body-fur 145; the thinly haired portion of the tail 85.

Measurements of skull:—

Greatest length 36.1 millim.; breadth 15; narrowest across interorbital constriction 7.1; basal length 33.7; front of incisors to back of palate 18.5; tooth-row 17; tip of incisors to tip of large premolar 8; greatest breadth across ^{ms. 2} 11.5. Mandible: length 23.9; height, angle to coronoid 11.6.

Type (♀) no. 98. 10. 24. 5 in the British Museum.

Collected by W. Giffard, 30th June, 1898, at Morsi, 600 feet, on the way to Kumassi. "Found dead."

This shrew is one of the largest true *Crociduras* known; its colour alone is sufficient to distinguish it from any other species.

Compared with *C. Manni* the skull is much larger in every measurement, and proportionately broader in the facial portion; the palate is broader and the teeth throughout much

heavier; the top of the skull is much flattened, especially over the fronto-parietal constriction, where it is also somewhat depressed.

The two small unicuspid teeth are subequal in size, the hindermost only being slightly larger in cross-section. Though the label records that this shrew was "found dead," there can be little doubt that its demise had not long taken place, for the skin is in perfect preservation throughout and reflects great credit on the collector, the fur being like shining velvet.

LXI.—*Notes on some Type Specimens of Cretaceous Fishes from Mount Lebanon in the Geneva Museum.* By A. SMITH WOODWARD, F.L.S.

WHEN Professor F. J. Pictet, in collaboration with Mons. A. Humbert, published an extended and revised memoir on the Cretaceous fish-fauna of Mount Lebanon in 1866 *, he was still unable to elucidate further some of the more problematical fishes which he had already described in his original memoir on the subject in 1850 †. The much later researches of Davis ‡, based upon the Lewis Collection, also failed to contribute many facts of importance to our knowledge of these doubtful forms, and did not refer to Pictet's type specimens in the Natural History Museum of Geneva. During a recent study of the Cretaceous fish-fauna in question, I have therefore visited Geneva for the purpose of examining Pictet's original collection; and, thanks to the kindness of Dr. Maurice Bedot and Dr. Weber, I am now able to add a few interesting facts concerning some of the imperfectly understood types, regarded in the light of our present knowledge.

1. *Petalopteryx syriacus*, Pictet, *op. cit.* p. 22, pl. iii. fig. 1.

The unique type specimen of this species is very inadequately described and imperfectly figured by Pictet. The fish is displayed chiefly in side view on a small slab of fissile limestone from Hakel, but the trunk and dorsal fin are for the most part indicated only in impression. The hinder part of the cranial roof is well preserved and suggestive of that of *Amia*, with large parietal bones in contact mesially, and a

* Pictet & Humbert, 'Nouvelles Recherches sur les Poissons Fossiles du Mont Liban' (Geneva, 1866).

† F. J. Pictet, 'Description de quelques Poissons Fossiles du Mont Liban' (Geneva, 1850).

‡ J. W. Davis, "The Fossil Fishes of the Chalk of Mount Lebanon in Syria," Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc. [2] vol. iii. (1887), pp. 457-636, pls. xiv.-xxxviii.